(b) the details thereof; and

(c) Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Agitation of teachers of Madhya Pradesh

†480. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the teaching community of Madhya Pradesh had held a demonstration in September, 2005 in Delhi on teacher's day and they had also presented a memorandum to the Prime Minister and to him;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what was the duration of the strike of the teaching community and its impact on studies of the students; and

(d) the steps Government have initiated to solve the problems of the teaching community?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) to (d) Teachers from MP reportedly held a demonstration in Delhi on 5th September, 2005 to highlight their grievances. They were also on strike from 22.8.2005 to 24.09.2005. As regards the grievances of the teachers, it is for the Government of Madhya Pradesh to take necessary action.

New direction to education

†481. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to give a new format to the education for 1st to 12th standard in near future throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and by when; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also being considered to ensure the authenticity of the books by going into the facts while preparing the new text books?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2005 prepared by the NCERT and approved by the Central Advisory Board on Education (CABE) from the basis for preparing new syllabi from classes I to XII. The revised syllabi prepared by NCERT on the basis of the NCF 2005 have since been approved. The textbooks based on the new syllabi are being developed in a phased manner. Textbooks for classes I, III, VI, IX & XI are being developed in the first phase for introduction in schools in the academic year 2006-07.

(c) The NCERT has introduced changes in the textbook development process to ensure that it is in consonance with the principles extended in the Constitution of India, the National Policy on Education 1986 and the National Curriculum Framework 2005. Textbook Committees consisting of experts from outside NCERT, school teachers and subject experts are responsible for ensuring authenticity of the facts and figures given in the new textbooks.

Mid-Day Meal Scheme in Goa

482. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mid-day Meal Scheme is being implemented in Goa;

(b) if so, the date of its commencement;

(c) whether the programme was discontinued; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 9th January, 2003.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.